REMARKS

We are in receipt of the Office Action dated December 23, 2003, and the above amendment and following remarks are made in light thereof.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9-14, 17, 18, 21, 24, 25, 28, 31 and 32 having been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the Election of species dated October 22, 2003.

Pursuant to the Office Action, claims 3-4, 7-8, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, 33 and 34 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe 6,441,877 in view of Shintani et al. 5,978,056.

By way of the foregoing amendment, each of the independent claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 has been amended to clarify the characteristic of the present invention as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 13. Specifically, the amended claims require that a dielectric be provided in contact with the insulating film on which the pixel electrodes are formed and to overlap the ends of the pixel electrodes.

Although Watanabe, in Fig. 2, shows a dielectric 8 covering the pixel electrodes 6, it appears that the dielectric 8 covers throughout the surface of the pixel electrodes 6, and is not in contract with the insulting film 8 on which the pixel electrodes

are formed. Accordingly, applicant submits that by the forgoing amendment, the claims distinguish over the prior art and the objection for obviousness is overcome.

Pursuant to the amendment, new claims 35-42 have been added. These claims also recite that the dielectric is in contact with an insulating film on which the pixel electrodes are formed and contact the edges of the pixel electrodes. Consequently, applicant believes that these claims are also allowable.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early Office Action in this regard is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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